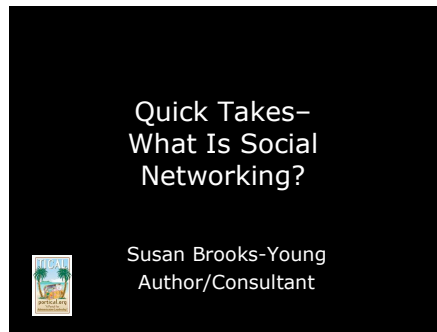
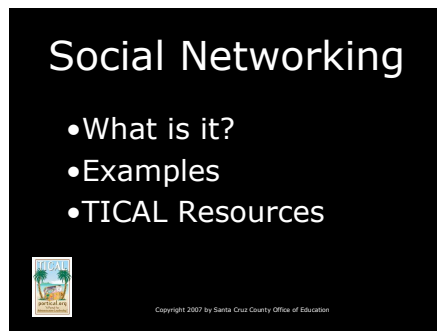


Slide 1



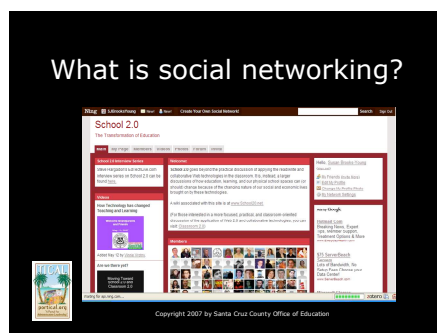
Hello! My name is Susan Brooks-Young. I spent 23 years working as a teacher and administrator in public and private education. Now I work with educators across the country on various aspects of technology use in schools, including ways that emerging technologies can be used by teachers and administrators. This is one of a series of Quick Take presentations that provides a brief overview of emerging technologies along with examples of how educators are using these tools and resources available on TICAL.

Slide 2



Internet users, particularly teens and young adults, are spending increasing amounts of time interacting with other users while they are online. This Quick Take focuses on the social networking phenomenon, providing basic information and examples geared to educators.

Slide 3



When people hear the term social networking they often think of sites that are popular with teens and young adults such as MySpace or Facebook. But those are just the tip of the iceberg. Social networks are communities of people who share common interests and activities using Web-based tools to communicate with one another.

Slide 4



This means that social networks include those sites that support user interactivity using tools like blogs, wikis, and podcasts or even photo and video sharing sites.

Slide 5

Pros	Cons
Removes geographic barriers	Too much personal information
Opportunity to share ideas	Inappropriate information
Interaction	May lure cyber-criminals

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What are the pros and cons of social networking?

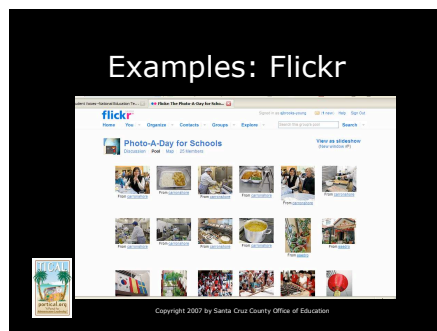
Online social networks remove geographic barriers. People are able to easily share interests and exchange ideas with like-minded individuals worldwide. But there are concerns about social networks as well. Adults often worry that teens and even younger adults share too much personal information in these social networks. Employers and college or university admissions officers now routinely review MySpace pages and other social networking sites when making hiring and admissions decisions. Inappropriate postings have cost young people a new job or a spot in the college or university of their choice. And, there is the potential for exposure to cyber crime including online predators and identity thieves.

Slide 6



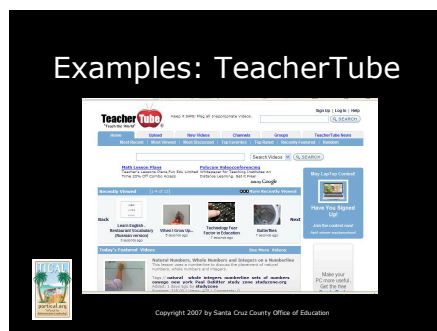
Social networking isn't going to go away any time soon. Educators owe it to themselves and their students to explore ways these sites can be used to enhance instruction and teach students safe, appropriate Internet use. For example, Ning is a free social networking site that is popular with educators. This platform allows members to create their own customized social networks. Features include photo and video sharing, discussion forums, and personal member profile pages and blogs. Ad-free subscriptions are available.

Slide 7



Flickr allows users to organize and share their photos. Viewers are encouraged to comments on the photos. This slide shows a school project organized by the principal of St. Elisabeth's school in Van Nuys, California. Educators from English-speaking countries around the world posted and commented on photos related to weekly topics that were shared with students.

Slide 8




TeacherTube is a free online community for sharing instructional videos. Members may upload and share videos, making comments and ranking each video's usefulness.

Slide 9

Learn more

- TICAL's Resources at www.portical.org on social networks
 - Social Networking Websites and Teens: An Overview
http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/198/report_display.asp
 - e-learning 2.0- how Web technologies are shaping education
http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/e-learning_20.php



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This slide and the next show items found in the TICAL Resources Database that will give you more information about social networking.

Slide 10

Learn more


- EduSpaces <http://elgg.net/index.php>
- Who's Watching YOUR Space? (video)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCVuzNo1EDo>



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Slide 11

Thank you!



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Social networks can dissolve classroom walls and provide good learning experiences for students and teachers. I hope this Quick Take inspires you to learn more about Web 2.0 tools.